



**Dirk Kempthorne**  
Governor

Idaho's roads and highways provide a safe and convenient means of travel for Idaho residents, as well as those visiting or traveling through our beautiful state. Whether you are riding your motorcycle over a mountain pass or through a pristine desert, Idaho's motor vehicle laws, regulations, and driver's license procedures are designed to help you reach your destination safely.

Riding a motorcycle on Idaho roadways is an enjoyable experience, but doing so safely requires that you know and understand motor vehicle laws and practices. This manual is designed to provide you with that knowledge. By studying the information on the following pages, you will understand Idaho's basic motor vehicle laws and rules of the road, and learn valuable motorcycle safety practices.

An Idaho motorcycle operator's permit allows you to take your place on the highways of our great state. We must all take an active role in promoting motorcycle safety. By working together, we will keep Idaho's roads and highways a safe and enjoyable place to ride. Please remember to wear your helmet.

Sincerely,

Dirk Kempthorne  
Governor



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## PREFACE

Operating a motorcycle\* safely in traffic requires special skills and knowledge. The purpose of this manual is to educate Idaho motorcycle operators and to convey essential safe-driving information that will help them avoid accidents while safely operating a motorcycle. While designed for the novice, all motorcyclists can benefit from the information contained in this manual.

The Idaho Transportation Department used information provided by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) to compile the *Idaho Motorcycle Operators Manual* and written tests. The National Public Services Research Institute, under contract to the National Highway Safety Administration, developed the original *Motorcycle Operators Manual*.

The Idaho Transportation Department also received assistance from a certified MSF Motorcycle Chief Instructor, representatives from the Department of Education, and a member of the Idaho Coalition of Motorcycle Safety. These individuals used their own riding experience, and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's outlines used by other states, to assist the department in developing a motorcycle program for the state of Idaho.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation has assisted Idaho and 39 other states to adopt the *Motorcycle Operators Manual* for use in their licensing programs. In addition, Idaho and 27 other states utilize the related motorcycle written tests.

Improved licensing along with quality motorcycle rider education and increased public awareness have the potential to reduce the number and severity of motorcycle accidents.

*\* A motorcycle means every motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, but excluding a tractor and moped.*